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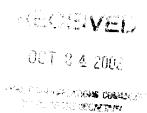


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Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12th Street **SW** Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:



I would like to convey my support for the EchoStar and Hughes Electronics merger proposal that the Federal Communications Commission is considering.

As a REALTOR® in Iowa, I have seen many changes take place in the real estate profession over the years. One of those changes is the need for better and faster technology regardless of where you live. Currently, our rural areas are suffering because they do not have the tools available to advance with technology.

I am writing to ask for you support of this merger so we can give the smaller communities *the* opportunity to thrive in a global marketplace. This merger will allow consumers who currently have no choices in high-speed Internet, or even local Internet dial-ups to be provided with options for the technology that most urban areas already have.

I believe if the FCC approves this merger, it will provide an important tool for rural Iowans and the businesses that serve them.

Sincerely,

C

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